

The Chronicle History

For heare her but exemplified by her selfe,
When all her chivalry hath bene in France,
And she a mourning widdow of her Nobles,
She hath her selfe not onely well defended,
But taken and impounded (as a stray) the King of Scotte,
Whom like a caye she did leade to France,
Filling your Chronicles as rich with praise,
As is the owse and bottome of the sea,
With sunken wracke, and shipleesse treasure.

Lord. There is a saying very old and true.
If you will France win,
Then with Scotland first begin:
For once the Eagle England being in pray,
To his unfurnisht Nest the weazle Scot
Would sucke her Egges,
Playing the Mouse in absence of the Cat,
To spoyle and haucke more then she can eat.

Exe. It followes then, the Cat must stay at home,
Yet that is but a curst necessity,
Since we haue traps to catch the petty theeuers:
Whilst that the armed hand doth fight abroad,
The aduised head controulles at home:
For gouernment though high or low, being put in parts,
Congrueth with a mutuall consent like musicke.

Bish. True, therefore doth heauen
Diuide the fate of man in diuers functions:
Whereto is added as an ayme or But, Obedience:
For so liue the hony bees, creatures that by awe
Ordaine an act of order to a peopled Kingdome.
They haue a King, and Officers of sort;
Where some like Magistrates correct at home:
Others, like Merchants venture Trade abroad:
Others, like soldiours armed in their stings,
Make boot vpon the sommers Veluet bud:
Which pillage they with merry march bring home
To the Tent-royall of their Emperor;
Who busied in his maiesty, behold

The

of Henry the fift.

The singing Masons building roofes of Gold,
The ciuill Citizens lading vp the hony,
The sad-ey'd Iustice with his surly humine,
Deliuering vp to executors pale, the lazie caning drone,
This I inferre, that twenty actions once a foote,
May all end in one moment.

As many arrowes losed feuerall wayes, fly to one marke:
As many feuerall wayes meete in one Towne:
As many fresh streames run in one selfe-sea:
As many lines close in the diall center:
So may a thousand actions once a foote,
End in one moment, and be all well born without defect.

Therefore my Liege to France,
Diuide your happy England into foure,
Of which take you one quarter into France,
And you withall, shall make all Gallia shake.

If we with thrice that power left at home,
Cannot defend our owne doore from the dogge,
Let vs be beaten, and from henceforth lose
The name of policy and hardinesse.

King. Call in the messenger sent from the Dolphin,
And by your ayde, the noble sinnewes of our Land,
France being ours, weel bring it to our awe,
Or breake it all in peeces:

Either our Chronicles shall with full mouth speake
Freely of our acts, or else like tonguelesse mutes,
Not worshipt with a paper Epitaph.

Enter the Ambassadors from France.
Now are we well prepared to know the Dolphins pleasure
For we heare your coming is from him.

Ambas. Pleaseth your Maiesty to giue vs leaue
Freely to tender what we haue in charge,
Or shall I sparingly throw a sarre off,
The Dolphins pleasure, and our Embassage?

King. We are not tyrant, but a Christian King,
To whom our spirit is as subiect,
As are our wretches fettered in our prisons.

There-